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ABSTRACT

This book consists of 18 essays that discuss teaching methods and resource material promoting productive school experiences for American Indian students. The first section of the book introduces the notion of empowerment of Indian students through multicultural education, foundations of Indian education, the history of Indian education, tribal and federal language policies, and a successful bilingual program. Section 2 discusses the importance of adapting teaching methods and curriculum to Indian culture and to the learning styles of Indian children. It also offers recommendations for promoting a positive working relationship between teachers and parents. Section 3 describes language and literacy development, the role of the first language in second language development, and the characteristics of American Indian English. Section 4 addresses the importance of Indian students' exposure to literature relevant to their culture and background. It provides suggestions for whole language teaching strategies, teaching strategies to enhance students' reading comprehension, and an overview of literature written by American Indians. Section 5 makes specific suggestions for teaching social studies, science, mathematics, and physical education to Indian students. Appendices include population and education statistics of American Indians, sources and recommendations for Indian children's literature, resources in social studies, and extensive references. (LP)

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